

In the Claims:

1 1. [Original] A method of programming a non-volatile memory unit in
2 a hard copy output engine comprising:
3 determining a geographical area within which the hard copy output engine
4 is to be deployed;
5 determining an electronic address for a consumables supplier appropriate
6 to the geographical area; and
7 programming the electronic address into the non-volatile memory.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an electronic
2 address comprises determining a universal resource locator for an original
3 equipment manufacturer.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an electronic
2 address comprises determining a universal resource locator for a reseller of
3 consumable supplies associated with the hard copy output engine.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising programming
2 the non-volatile memory with product descriptors for consumable supplies
3 associated with the hard copy output engine.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 determining that the electronic address for the consumables supplier is
3 obsolete;
4 determining a revised electronic address for the consumables supplier
5 appropriate to the geographical area; and
6 re-programming the non-volatile memory with the revised electronic
7 address to replace the obsolete electronic address.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the hard copy output
2 engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers
3 and printers.

1 7. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an
2 electronic address comprises determining a universal resource locator for a
3 supplier chosen from a group consisting of: an original equipment manufacturer,
4 a reseller or a supplier of office supplies including hard copy output engine
5 consumables.

1 8. [Currently Amended] A method of obtaining consumable supplies for a
2 hard copy output engine comprising:

3 determining that an amount of consumable for the hard copy output
4 engine is less than a threshold amount;

5 extracting an electronic address for a vendor of the consumable from a
6 non-volatile memory included in the hard copy output engine; and

7 initiating communication with the vendor using the electronic address;
8 and

9 wherein the initiating comprises directly initiating communication with the
10 vendor from the hard copy output engine.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein extracting an electronic
2 address comprises extracting a universal resource locator.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein extracting an electronic
2 address comprises extracting a universal resource locator for a vendor of
3 consumables appropriate to a geographical area within which the hard copy
4 output engine is deployed.

1 11. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 8, wherein initiating
2 communication includes transmitting an electronic message ordering from the
3 hard copy output engine which orders a predetermined quantity of the
4 consumable determined to be present in an amount less than the threshold
5 amount.

1 12. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 8, wherein
2 determining comprises determining using processing circuitry in response to a
3 sensor in the hard copy output engine sensing that an amount of the
4 consumable is less than the threshold amount.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein initiating communication
2 comprises initiating a servlet.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein the hard copy output
2 engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers
3 and printers.

1 15. [Original] A computer implemented control system for a hard copy
2 output engine, the system comprising:

3 non-volatile memory included in the hard copy output engine and
4 configured to store data representing an electronic address for a supplier of
5 consumables for the hard copy output engine; and

6 processing circuitry configured to:

7 determine that an amount of a consumable for the hard copy
8 output engine is less than a threshold amount;

9 extract the electronic address from the non-volatile memory; and

10 initiate communication with the supplier using the electronic
11 address.

1 16. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system
2 of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to extract an electronic address
3 comprises a processor configured to extract a universal resource locator for a
4 supplier of consumables appropriate to a geographic area within which the hard
5 copy output engine is deployed.

1 17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processor configured to initiate communication includes a processor
3 configured to transmit an electronic message ordering a predetermined quantity
4 of the consumable determined to be present in an amount less than the
5 threshold amount.

1 18. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processor configured to initiate communication includes a processor
3 configured to initiate a servlet.

1 19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of:
3 facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

1 20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processor configured to extract an electronic address comprises a
3 processor configured to extract a universal resource locator.

1 21. Cancel.

1 22. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system
2 of claim 15, wherein the processing circuitry is included in the hard copy output
3 engine.

1 23. [Currently Amended] A method of obtaining consumable supplies
2 for a hard copy output engine, comprising:

3 determining a geographical area within which the hard copy output engine
4 is to be deployed;

5 determining an electronic address for a consumables supplier appropriate
6 to the geographical area;

7 storing the electronic address in a non-volatile memory of the hard copy
8 output engine; and

9 proactively initiating communication with the consumables supplier from
10 the hard copy output engine and using the stored electronic address [[if]]
11 responsive to an amount of a consumable for the hard copy output engine [[is]]
12 being less than a predetermined threshold.

1 24. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 determinings and the programming are performed prior to deployment of the
3 hard copy output engine in an end user environment.

1 25. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 programming comprises programming into the non-volatile memory resident
3 within the hard copy output engine.

1 26. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 8, further comprising:
2 determining the electronic address corresponding to a geographical area in
3 which the hard copy output engine will be deployed in an end user environment;
4 and
5 storing the electronic address within the hard copy output engine prior to
6 deployment of the hard copy output engine.

1 27. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system
2 of claim 15, wherein the non-volatile memory is configured to store the data
3 representing the electronic address prior to deployment of the hard copy output
4 engine in an end user environment.

1 28. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 23, wherein the
2 determinings and the storing are performed prior to deployment of the hard copy
3 output engine in an end user environment.

1 29. [New] The method of claim 8, further comprising directly sending
2 an electronic message from the hard copy output engine to the vendor without
3 user intervention.

1 30. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the hard copy
3 output engine configured to communicate an electronic message from the hard
4 copy output engine to the supplier without user intervention.

1 31. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the hard copy
3 output engine configured to communicate an electronic message directly to the
4 supplier.

1 32. [New] The method of claim 23, wherein the proactively initiating
2 communication comprises sending an electronic message from the hard copy
3 output engine to the supplier without user intervention.

1 33. [New] The method of claim 23, wherein the proactively initiating
2 communication comprises directly communicating with the supplier using the
3 hard copy output engine.